

www.sunnyvale.ca.gov October 2005

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE MAP

Bicycle painting on cover by Taliah Lempert www.bicyclepaintings.com http://www.bicyclepaintings.com/



City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE MAP

The Sunnyvale Bicycle Map was developed to encourage more people to bicycle by identifying a network of the best streets and paths for bicycling; to educate bicyclists about their rights and responsibilities as roadway users; to inform bicyclists about access to public transit; and to recognize bicycling as a legitimate mode of transportation.

SUNNYVALE FACTS

Location	Sunnyvale is located at the southwest end of the San Francisco Bay.
Population	133,800 (2005)
Land Area	24 square miles
Days of Sunshine	310 days
Miles of Streets	298 miles
Bike Facilities	75 miles of bike lane 8 miles of trails

All roadways in Sunnyvale are accessible to bikes except Highways 101, 280, 85 and 237.

Transit and Rail Facilities – VTA Bus and Light Rail, Sunnyvale Caltrain Station, Lawrence Caltrain Station.

City Website www.sunnyvale.ca.gov



Sunnyvale Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

The Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) is a group of Sunnyvale residents appointed by the City Council to recommend bicycle and pedestrian project priorities and priorities for implementation of Sunnyvale's Bicycle Program. The BPAC works closely with the Department of Public Works and other City Departments in the formulation of enhanced education and bicycle safety programs.

The seven member advisory committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the West Conference Room, City Hall, 456 West Olive Avenue. The meetings are open to the public.

Bicycle Organizations/Resources

511 Bay Area Travel Guide
<http://bicycling.511.org>

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
www.svbcbikes.org
408-867-9797

Bay Area Bicycle Coalition
www.bayareabikes.org
415-246-8078

California Bicycle Coalition
www.calbike.org
916-446-7558

League of American Bicyclists
www.bikeleague.org
202-822-1333

Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
www.sunnyvale.ca.gov
408-730-7415

Valley Transportation Authority Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee
www.vta.org
408-321-5680



Bicyclists boarding the Caltrain at Sunnyvale Station

Route Selection

Bike Lanes – Bike lanes are portions of streets reserved for the exclusive use of bicycles. They are designated by a line marked on the pavement and by a sign which limits the use to bicycles.

Bike Paths – Bike Paths are paved pathways used for non-motorized travel and are physically separated from streets.

Signed On-Street Routes – Signed on-street routes are routes that have signs indicating that bicyclists will be using the roadway. In some cases, these routes will have a wider outside lane or shoulder.

Routes – Bicyclists are permitted to ride on all streets in the City of Sunnyvale except Highways 101, 237 and 85. In order to aid in route selection, all major streets in Sunnyvale have been rated to indicate the level of competence recommended for safe bicycle travel.

Beginner/Novice – Indicates a street with low traffic volumes and speeds. These streets are suited for use by individuals with limited competency in cycling ability and some knowledge of safety rules and the rights and responsibility of cyclists and motorists.

Intermediate – Indicates a street with moderate speeds and traffic volume. Bicyclists must share the road with vehicles; however there is typically enough room for this to be accommodated comfortably. It is suited for individuals knowledgeable of the safety rules and responsibilities of the road and who have a basic level of cycling competency.

Advanced – Indicates a street with high speeds and traffic volume. Bicyclists must share the road with vehicles. On these routes this is typically not accommodated comfortably based on the width of the outside lane and presence of parked vehicles. These routes are suited for individuals who are capable of riding on major roadways, and in high traffic volume with very little difficulty and are informed and knowledgeable of all safety rules and responsibilities of the road.



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Road Hazard Reporting

If you encounter a problem with the traffic signals or roadways within the City of Sunnyvale contact the Division of Transportation and Traffic at (408)730-7415 or bpac@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

To report a road hazard on El Camino Real, contact Caltrans at 408-436-0930

To report a road hazard on Central Expressway or Lawrence Expressway, contact Santa Clara County at 408-686-0605 or roads@countyroads.org.

The Bike/Transit Connection

Cycling is great for short distances. When combined with transit, the entire Bay Area is accessible.

Bicycles can be accommodated on all major forms of public transportation in Bay Area. Exceptions are San Francisco Muni Metro, historic streetcars and cable cars.

Caltrain – Bicycles are welcome on all trains at all times -- as long as there is space. The number of bicycles is limited to 32 per gallery car train and 16 per Bombardier car (Baby Bullet) train. The northern-most car is designated as the "bike" car. Look for the black bike on yellow sticker which designates the proper car. Call 800-660-4287 for helpful destination tags for your bike.

VTA Buses – VTA has equipped all buses with exterior bike racks that can accommodate up to two bicycles. When the rack is filled, up to two bicycles will be allowed inside the bus subject to the driver's discretion and when passenger loads are light. The buses on the Highway 17 Express and the Dumbarton Express are also equipped with bike racks which can accommodate up to two bicycles. Bicycles are not allowed inside the bus on the Highway 17 Express and Dumbarton Express.

VTA Light Rail – All light rail vehicles are equipped with interior bike racks. The maximum number of bicycles allowed inside a light rail vehicle is six. Up to four bicycles can be accommodated in the racks provided, with two additional bicycles allowed to stand on the floor in the center section (turntable area) of the vehicle. All bicycles must be boarded through the center doors of each car, and they are restricted to the designated area in the center section (turntable area) of the vehicle.

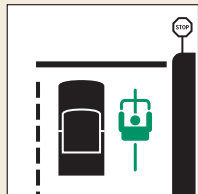
Lockers/Bike Racks – Both Sunnyvale Caltrain Stations have lockers and racks for bikes. Call Caltrain at 650-508-6350 for more information.

Bicycle Registration

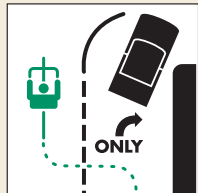
Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety requires all bicycles to be registered. A license can be purchased from any Fire Station between 5-6 p.m. daily. The fee is currently \$6 for a 3-year license.

BICYCLING SAFETY TIPS

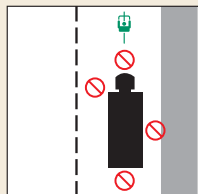
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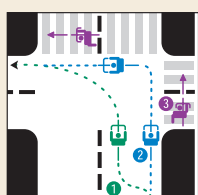
Obeey all traffic signs and signals
Bicyclists must drive like motorists if they are to be taken seriously. Bicyclists are required to come to a complete stop at stop signs and red signal lights.



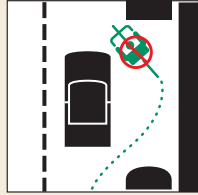
Use hand signals
Hand signals tell others what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of courtesy and of self-protection.



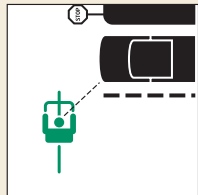
Ride in the middle of narrow lanes
When the lane is too narrow for a car to pass you safely, ride in the middle of the lane.



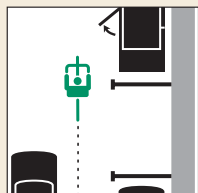
Choose the best way to turn left
There are three ways to make a left turn.
1 Signal, look back for oncoming traffic, then move into the left turn lane. Turn left when it is clear.
2 Ride to the far side of the intersection, stop, turn, and then ride across the street when the light turns green.
3 Or as a pedestrian: You can always get off your bike and walk across one or both crosswalks. Yield to pedestrians.



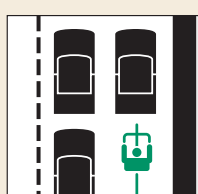
Follow lane markings
Do not turn left from the right lane. Do not go straight in a lane marked right-turn only.



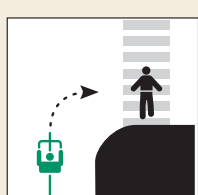
Watch for cars pulling out
Make eye contact with drivers. Assume they don't see you until you are sure they do. When the sun is in their eyes, drivers may not see you.



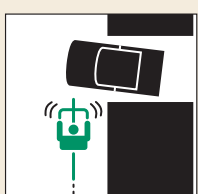
Keep clear of the door zone
Try to ride more than a door's width away from parked cars. If you have to ride in the door zone, ride very slowly. You have the right to ride in the middle of a travel lane if it is too narrow to share with a car. Watch for cars pulling out.



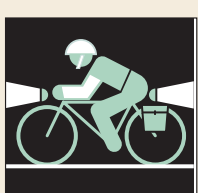
Be alert to the road around you
Keep your eyes roving constantly for cars, people, sand and gravel, grates, etc. Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving.



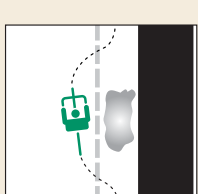
Respects pedestrians' rights
Pedestrians on sidewalks and in crosswalks have the right of way. When entering or exiting driveways, bicyclists must yield to pedestrians on the sidewalk. If bicycling on the sidewalk, ride slowly. Be especially aware of small children, people with pets, people with disabilities and their service animals.



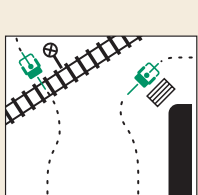
Ride with both hands, ready to brake
You may need to stop suddenly at unexpected times. In rain, allow three times the normal braking distance.



Be seen so you can be avoided
Use a strong headlight and rear reflector or taillight at night or when visibility is poor. Wear light-colored clothes with reflective tape for extra protection. Reflective leg bands are also effective.

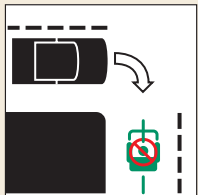


You may leave a bike lane
When a road hazard or other obstruction exists in a bike lane, or you anticipate a motorist might turn across your path, you may temporarily merge with caution into the adjacent motor vehicle lane for safety.

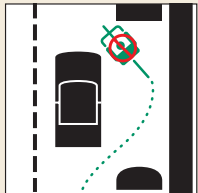


Avoid road hazards
Watch out for parallel-slat sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, detour signage, sand, gravel and debris. Cross railroad tracks carefully at right angles. For better control as you move across bumps and other hazards, stand up off the seat.

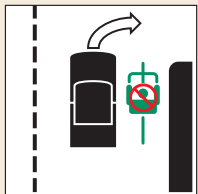
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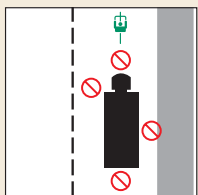
Never ride against traffic
Motorists are not looking for bicyclists riding against traffic on the wrong side of the road.



Don't weave between parked cars
Motorists may not see you when you try to move into traffic. Use extra caution on streets that allow use of the parking shoulder as a motor vehicle lane during peak hours.



Don't pass on the right
Motorists may not look for nor see a bicycle passing on the right. At intersections or driveways watch for right-turning



In front, or far behind, not beside!
To ensure drivers of large vehicles (buses, trucks and motor homes) can see you, stay out of their blind spots. Never pass on the right side. Ride far enough behind for the driver to see you, and at least four feet from the sides to avoid falling under a large vehicle.

Be Predictable – Ride so drivers can see you and predict your movements. Remember that the rules in the driver's manual apply to bicyclists also.

Be Alert – Ride defensively and expect the unexpected. Remember, bicyclists are more vulnerable.

Be Equipped – Your bicycle should be in good working order. Be sure to wear a helmet and if desired other protective gear such as a rear-view mirror, reflective clothing, gloves and sunglasses.

Always Wear A Helmet

Three out of four bicycling deaths are caused by head injury. Like a seat belt in a car, a helmet can make the difference between life and death in a collision or fall. Quality, comfort and selection have improved greatly in the past few years, and the cost of a helmet is negligible compared to your life or medical bills.

All bicyclists 18 years and younger by law must wear a helmet that meets the ANSI of SNELL or ASTM F-1447 standards when operating a bicycle.



Sunnyvale Police Officer teaches children how to bike and walk safely, during the Columbia Health and Safety Fair.



Sunnyvale Director of Public Works Marvin A. Rose, biking to work on Bike to Work Day.



"Energizer Station" at Bayshore/NASA Light Rail Station.



City of Sunnyvale staff participate in a Bike to Work Day ride.